EDUCATING HEARTS AS WELL AS MINDS Governor Mike Easley's Character Education Initiative

- ➤ *Character education* develops a young person's discipline, personal responsibility and responsibility to others. It ensures that children get the opportunity to learn respect and accountability and to develop the moral fiber that will enable them to be caring and concerned citizens.
- ➤ *Character education* will be expanded to provide opportunity for character education programs to all students in all of our counties.
- ➤ Character education funds will be provided to the Department of Public Instruction for the N.C. Character Education Partnership initiative to provide resources and training to additional school systems so that they can develop and implement character education programs.
- ➤ Character education funds will also be provided to the Center for School Leadership Development at the University of North Carolina to provide professional development to teachers and principals to bring character education to their students. When possible, technology-based resources will be used.
- ➤ Character education professional development for teachers and principals will be coordinated through The Center. The people and organizations that currently play a role in developing and implementing character education programs across the State will be invited to take part in a six-month strategic planning process to ensure that our character education models incorporate the most effective experience from throughout North Carolina and the nation.
- Approximately \$500,000 will be made available to fund development and expansion of character education programs. Significant expansion of character education programs will take place in the upcoming school year.